B2320-1

Columbian Chemicals Company

July 1, 1985

Attached are a chart and a table covering U.S.A. carbon black and dry rubber hydrocarbon consumption during the first quarter of 1985.

## FURNACE BLACK

First quarter production decreased 5% and shipments 4% from the same period of 1984 to 308 thousand metric tons each. Demand in all grades was lower except N-100, up 1%.

Plant inventories eased one percent during the quarter, from 96 to 95 MMT, a four week supply, ranging from less than four weeks in N-300, N-500 and N-600 to one month in N-100, N-200 and N-700.

## DRY RUBBER HYDROCARBONS
(Excluding Reclaim)

Parallelling carbon black industry, U.S.A. dry rubber hydrocarbon consumption decreased 4% from the first quarter of 1984 to 668 thousand metric tons. While demand in Natural Rubber climbed to a new quarterly high, surpassing the previous record of 211 MMT in the first quarter of 1977 by one percent, SBR was down to the lowest level since the 185 MMT in the fourth quarter of 1982.

As the synthetic share of 67.9% dropped to the lowest level in thirty-five years, carbon black ratio eased from 45.4 phr the year earlier to 45.3 parts per hundred rubber.

Very truly yours,

G. T. Madden
Vice President, Sales
Worldwide Tire Industry

GTM:gs

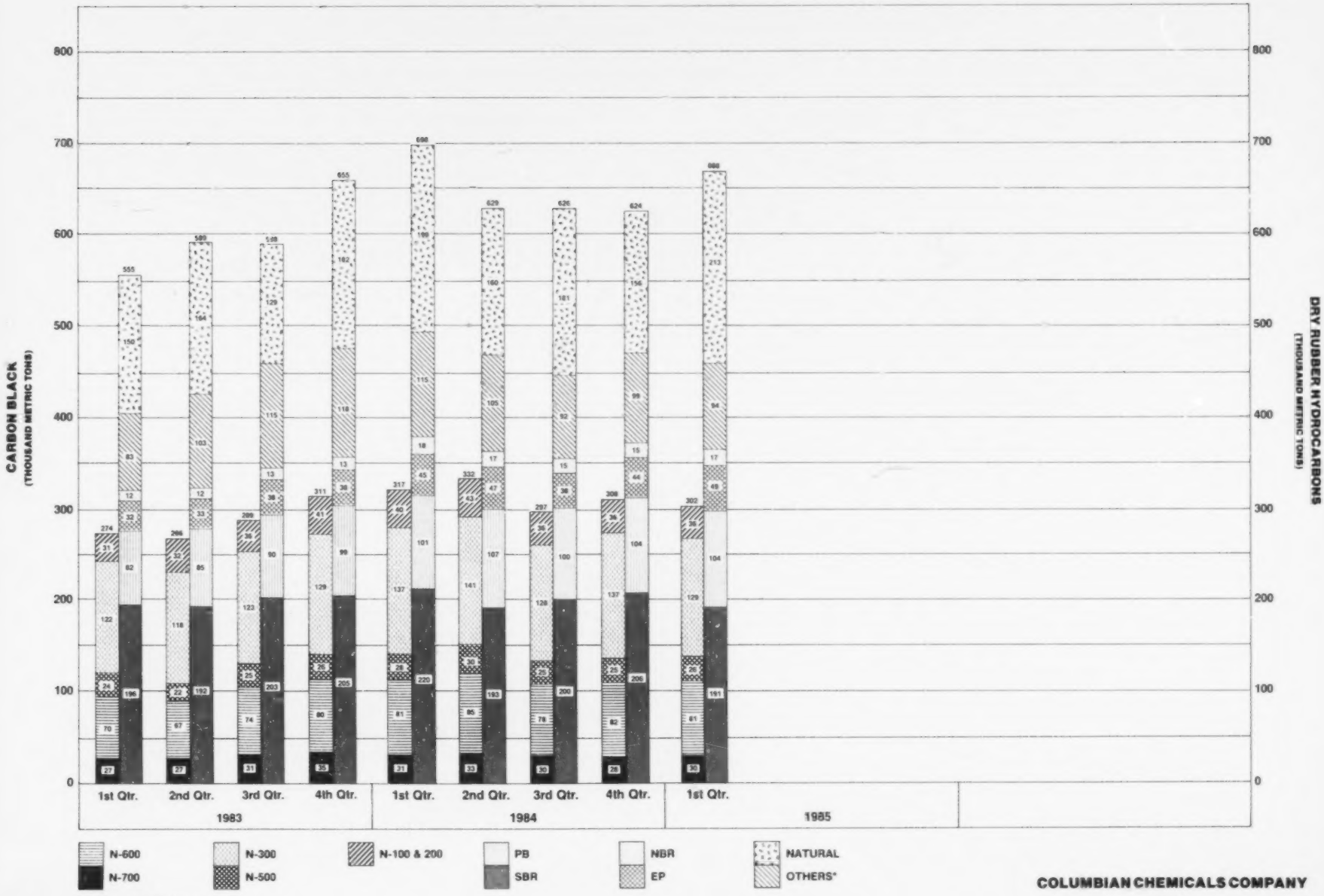
3200 West Market Street, Box 5373, Akron, Ohio 44313 (216) 867-5800

## CARBON BLACK INDUSTRY IN THE U.S.A.

(Metric Tons)

| | | 1st Qtr. 1985 | Percentage Change from 4th Qtr. '84 | Percentage Change from 1st Qtr. '84 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| N-100 (SAF) | Prod. | 6,450 | + 2.7% | + 6.8% |
| | Ship. | 6,447 | + 7.3% | + 1.3% |
| N-200 (ISAF) | Prod. | 34,982 | + 0.4% | ( 1.3%) |
| | Ship. | 34,089 | ( 2.3%) | ( 6.9%) |
| N-300 (HAF) | Prod. | 129,573 | (10.5%) | ( 9.0%) |
| | Ship. | 130,099 | ( 8.2%) | ( 5.6%) |
| N-500 (FEF) | Prod. | 25,531 | ( 4.2%) | (10.3%) |
| | Ship. | 26,318 | + 4.4% | ( 7.7%) |
| N-600 (GPF) | Prod. | 81,215 | ( 5.1%) | + 0.7% |
| | Ship. | 81,166 | ( 2.6%) | ( 0.5%) |
| N-700 (SRF) | Prod. | 29,833 | ( 1.0%) | ( 0.2%) |
| | Ship. | 30,319 | + 6.8% | ( 4.5%) |
| Total | Prod. | 307,584 | ( 6.3%) | ( 4.7%) |
| | Ship. | 308,438 | ( 3.5%) | ( 4.4%) |
| Domestic Shipments (Included above) | | 302,473 | ( 1.8%) | ( 4.6%) |
| Domestic Share | | 98.1% | | |

# U.S.A. DRY RUBBER HYDROCARBON & CARBON BLACK CONSUMPTION




COLUMBIAN CHEMICALS COMPANY

B2320-1

Columbian Chemicals Company

September 12, 1985

Attached are a chart and a table covering U.S.A. carbon black and dry rubber hydrocarbon consumption during the second quarter and the first half of 1985.

## FURNACE BLACK

Second quarter production decreased 15% and shipments 16% from the same period of 1984 to 292 and 285 thousand metric tons respectively. Production was the lowest since the third quarter of 1983 and shipments the lowest since the second quarter of the same year.

For the first half, both production of 599 MMT and shipments of 593 MMT decreased 10% from the year earlier level. Demand in all grades were down, ranging from 8% in N-600 to 15% in N-500.

Plant inventory rose 7% during the quarter to 102 MMT, a one-month supply, varying from four weeks in N-300, N-500 and N-600, five weeks in N-200 and N-700 to almost six weeks in N-100.

## DRY RUBBER HYDROCARBONS

U.S.A. dry rubber hydrocarbon consumption of 595 thousand metric tons was the lowest since the third quarter of 1983, with both SBR and Polybutadiene down to the lowest since the first quarter of 1982.

Year-to-date consumption declined 5% from the first half of 1984 to 1,263 MMT.

Both rubber ratios during the quarter were lower than the year before: the synthetic share, from 73.7% to 70.8% and the carbon black, from 52.9 to 46.7 per hundred rubber.

Very truly yours,

G. T. Madden
Vice President, Sales
Worldwide Tire Industry

GTM:gs

3200 West Market Street, Box 5373, Akron, Ohio 44313 (216) 867-5800

## CARBON BLACK INDUSTRY IN THE U.S.A.

(Metric Tons)

| | | | 1985 | | Percentage Change | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 2nd Qtr. | 1st Half | 2nd Qtr. '85 vs. 2nd Qtr. '84 | 1st Half '85 vs. 1st Half '84 |
| N-100 | (SAF) | Prod. | 6,867 | 13,318 | (14.2%) | ( 5.1%) |
| | | Ship. | 6,292 | 12,739 | (18.3%) | ( 9.4%) |
| N-200 | (ISAF) | Prod. | 33,079 | 68,061 | (14.9%) | ( 8.4%) |
| | | Ship. | 32,675 | 66,763 | (15.6%) | (11.4%) |
| N-300 | (HAF) | Prod. | 126,317 | 255,890 | (12.8%) | (10.9%) |
| | | Ship. | 122,057 | 252,156 | (14.4%) | (10.1%) |
| N-500 | (FEF) | Prod. | 23,529 | 49,060 | (26.6%) | (18.9%) |
| | | Ship. | 23,325 | 49,643 | (22.2%) | (15.2%) |
| N-600 | (GPF) | Prod. | 76,383 | 157,597 | (10.5%) | ( 5.1%) |
| | | Ship. | 73,135 | 154,302 | (15.2%) | ( 8.0%) |
| N-700 | (SAF) | Prod. | 25,337 | 55,170 | (25.9%) | (13.9%) |
| | | Ship. | 27,259 | 57,578 | (18.5%) | (11.7%) |
| Total | | Prod. | 291,512 | 599,096 | (15.1%) | (10.1%) |
| | | Ship. | 284,743 | 593,181 | (15.9%) | (10.3%) |
| Domestic Shipments (Included Above) | | | 277,630 | 580,103 | (16.5%) | (10.7%) |
| Domestic Share | | | 97.5% | 97.8% | | |

# U.S.A. DRY RUBBER HYDROCARBON & CARBON BLACK CONSUMPTION